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LB 126A, 126

SENATOR HEIDEMANN: You was adamant when we was negotiating that you was going to get one thing, and that was what?

SENATOR RAIKES: K-12 organization.

SENATOR HEIDEMANN: There you go. And when you get K-12 organizations, according to the REAP funds, you're going to lose your local LEAs, according to the REAP fund. And what happens when you lose those LEAs?

SENATOR RAIKES: I'm sorry, would you repeat that, Senator?

SENATOR HEIDEMANN: According to the REAP fund--and this is how I understand it--you...there's...according to the formula, you get \$20,000 base per LEA. And according to LB 126, we lose the Class I's, you lose your LEA, and because of that, what happens?

SENATOR RAIKES: The school...if the K-12 is bigger than 600 students, then there would be no eligibility for REAP money. Anything under 600 students, even if it's a K-12, would be eligible. And that's the reason for my point that the typical, or modal, I think is the right term, for K-12 districts in Nebraska is something around 300 students. So most all of them would qualify under the REAP program. I think there are some other qualifications, maybe, besides just the 600 number. But a great many of them would qualify. It's interesting that a lot of them that would qualify, I believe, don't actually apply for it, and I'm not sure why. And keep in mind, too, that the \$20,000 is...you take out of that any other federal grants that would qualify, so that quite often there's not the full \$20,000. It's something less than that, depending upon what the school system receives in addition to the REAP money.

SENATOR HEIDEMANN: Wouldn't you probably agree, though, that these Class I's probably don't...as a whole, don't qualify for any other fund, so they probably do get the full REAP grant fund, because they're not into any other program which would subtract from the REAP fund?

SENATOR RAIKES: Well, I think the average across the state, I'm told, is \$18,000. So there may be a few that get \$20,000, but